

with an ink-receiving layer on at least one surface of a substrate, wherein said ink-receiving layer comprises a porous layer comprising thermoplastic resin particles that have been mutually fused with no particle structure left and pigment particles, wherein the ink-receiving layer and the substrate are fused, and the ink receiving layer has gaps formed by the fusion of the thermoplastic resin particles, and  
wherein the amount of the thermoplastic resin in the ink-receiving layer is 40% or less of that of the pigment in the ink-receiving layer.

2. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein a porous outermost layer comprising thermoplastic resin particles is provided on the ink-receiving layer.

3. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said substrate is card-shaped.

4. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles are composed of alumina hydrate.

5. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polyvinyl chloride resin.

6. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polystyrene resin.

7. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polycarbonate.

8. (Not Amended Herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is composed of a terephthalic acid-ethylene glycol-cyclohexane dimethanol copolymer.

9. (Not Amended Herein) An image forming process comprising the step of forming an image by ejecting an ink by an ink-jet recording method onto the recording medium according to claim 1.

10. (Not Amended Herein) An image forming process comprising the steps of:

forming an image by discharging ink by an ink-jet recording method onto the recording medium according to claim 2, and

rendering said outermost layer transparent.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Not Amended Herein) A process for the preparation of a recording medium comprising the steps of:

applying to a substrate a coating liquid comprising pigment particles and thermoplastic resin particles;

forming an ink-receiving layer by fusing and adhering the thermoplastic resin with heat under pressure; and

fusing the thermoplastic resin particles and the substrate.

13. (Not Amended Herein) The process for the preparation of a recording medium according to claim 12 comprising further the step of:

forming an outermost layer, after the ink-receiving layer has been provided.